

251

THE
Last SPEECH
OF
COLL: OXBURGH,

Who was Executed at TYBURN MAY 14th, 1716.

Delivered by him to the Sheriffs, and Printed at LONDON by their Order.

R
C Custom has made it almost necessary for Persons in my Circumstances, to say or leave somewhat by their last Words, declaring their Sentiments with Relation to what they die for: In Compliance with which, I have thought fit to make the following Declaration.

In the first Place, I declare I die a Member of the Holy Roman Catholick Church, tho' a very unworthy One; and I desire all the Members of that Communion, to assist my Soul with their charitable Prayers.

A
I declare for my self, That I am in Charity with all the World, and do from my Soul forgive all my Enemies, and all others who have any Ways injured or done me Wrong: And particularly, I forgive all those who have promoted my Death, by malicious Misrepresentations, or otherways: And earnestly beg GOD to forgive them, and grant them the same Blessings I desire for my own Soul.

I likewise ask Pardon of all such as I have offended.

J
It has been said, that the Catholicks, who were taken at Preston, engaged in that Affair in View only of setting a Catholick King on the Throne, and re-establishing the Catholick Religion in England; but that is not the only Calumny charged on them, I declare for my own particular, that if KING JAMES the 3d had been a Protestant, I should think my self obliged to pay him the same Duty, and do him the same service, as if a Catholick; nor do I know any Catholick that is not of the same Principle: For I never could find that either by the Laws of GOD, or the Ancient Constitution of the Nation, Difference of Religion in the Prince made any Change in the Allegiance of the Subject.

A
I might have hoped, from the great Character Mr. Wills gave me at Preston (when I treated with him for a Surrender) of the Clemency of the Prince now on the Throne (to which he said, *We could not better entitle our selves than by an early Submission*) that such as surrendered themselves Prisoners at Discretion, on that Prospect, would have met with more Lenity than I have Experienced; and I believe England is the only Country in Europe, where Prisoners at Discretion are not understood to have their Lives sav'd.

I pray GOD of his Infinite Goodness restore the Nation to its former happiness by Extinguishing all unhappy Divisions, that all Animosities and Feuds may be buried and no other Emulation remain among the Subjects of Great-Britain, but, who shall be most zealous in advancing the true Glory of GOD, and the true Interest of the Nation.

EDINBURGH,

Re-printed by WILLIAM ADAM'S Junior, and sold at the Printing-house opposite to the Trone Church, 1716.

251